

## Lower Spokane Basin - WRIA #54

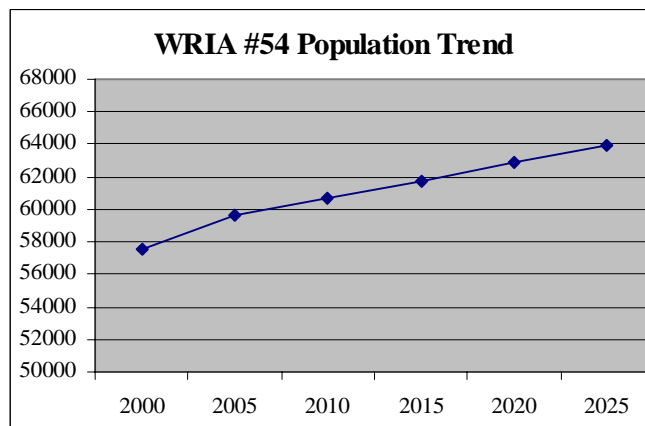


### Watershed Description

**WRIA #54** encompasses about 566,165 acres. This watershed is located within the Northern Rockies and Columbia Basin ecoregion. Average annual rainfall is 14 inches per year. The scablands and loess islands were formed as immense floods periodically broke through the ice dams blocking glacial Lake Missoula during the Pleistocene. Soils are typically deep loess on hills and foothills. Potential natural vegetation is ponderosa pine, serviceberry, bluebunch wheatgrass, and Idaho fescue.

### Population

There are approximately 58,563 people living in the Lower Spokane Basin. The primary population centers are Spokane and Medical Lake. The majority of people live in unincorporated areas. The population graph reflects the combined projected population of those counties located within the watershed (Office of Financial Management population projections).



Counties	% of basin
Stevens	49%
Spokane	28%
Lincoln	23%

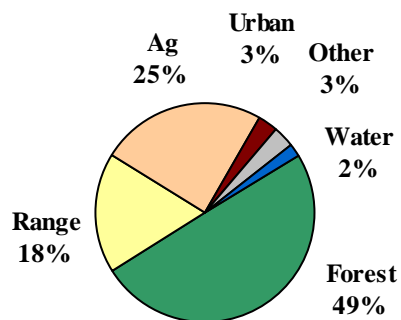
Tribal Reservation Lands in WRIA #54
Spokane Tribe

**Land ownership** for WRIA #54 includes federal, state, local, tribal, and private lands. Data was derived from the Public Lands Survey by Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Land Ownership	Acres	Proportion
Federal	14,903	2.6%
State	37,097	6.6%
Local	667	0.2%
Tribal	137,860	24.3%
Private	375,636	66.3%

**Land use** in the Lower Spokane Basin is mainly forestry, agriculture, and range-related uses. The general type of known land-use activities<sup>1</sup> within the watershed is graphed according to the percentage of its occurrence.

### Land use in the Lower Spokane




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<sup>1</sup> Category "other" may include perennial ice/snow, bare rock/sand/clay, quarries/strip mines/gravel pits, transitional, barren, and/or wetland areas.

## Project Location

The primary towns and cities in WRIA #54 include Spokane Heights, Medical Lake, Airway Heights, Wellpinit, Ford, and Reardan.

## Legislative and Congressional Districts

To determine your region's legislative or congressional district, see:

<http://www1.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/Default.aspx>

To determine **Latitude/Longitude coordinates**, see:

<http://www.topozone.com/>

(Make sure you set the button on the bottom of the page to D/M/S - hold the cursor over a spot on the map and the coordinates show at the bottom of the screen.)

Several federal programs refer to watersheds according to their Hydrological Unit Code (HUC). To learn more about your watershed and determine which **HUC** your town or county is located in, see:

<http://water.usgs.gov/wsc/>

## Water Quality

### Water Quality Assessment

The statewide Water Quality Assessment categorizes waterbody segments that have water quality data available. The Simple Query Tool and interactive mapping tool allow you to search for specific categories, water bodies, pollutant parameters, and other information, in whatever combination you choose. **WRIA #54** has fifteen (15) known Category 5 (impaired) water bodies.

To view the Water Quality Assessment, use the Simple Query Tool.

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/wats/WATSQBEHome.asp>

To view the Water Quality Assessment by Category, choose the Category (1 – 5) you are interested in from the drop down box. To view it by Water Resource Inventory Resource Area (WRIA), choose the WRIA number you are interested in from the drop down box.

Use the Interactive Mapping Tool to see a graphic representation of the Water Quality Assessment. This is a Geographic Information System (GIS) application that helps you find waters you are interested in and information about problems in that water body.

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/wqawa/viewer.htm>

## Domestic Water Supply

No significant use of surface water sources. For further information regarding water supplies, see:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/default.htm>

## Salmonid Stock Status

Good water quality is important to help salmon survive and thrive. To find out which salmon species are listed as threatened or endangered in a region, see:

<http://www.governor.wa.gov/gsro/regions/map.htm>

## Air Quality

Water quality can be affected by air quality; for example, windblown dust from construction sites or bare, dry agricultural lands, especially fallow fields, may be transported to waterways. For information about air quality, see:

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/Windblown\\_dust\\_information.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/Windblown_dust_information.htm)

## TMDLs and Other Watershed-Based Plans

For information about Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) in your area, see:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/>

To learn more about **watershed planning** in Washington State, see:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/watershed/index.html>

For **funding applicants**, other useful links can be found at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/funding/links.html>